

York Daily News to help those two organizations with their summer jobs program that aided economically disadvantaged young people to find employment opportunities during the summer in New York City. Her first job out of Bucknell was as assistant director of public relations here in Washington for the Sheraton Hotel chain. She did press, marketing, and events planning. But she could not fight that desire to come up here on Capitol Hill, and finally she landed a job as a senior legislative assistant to Pennsylvania Congressman Gus Yatron, a Democrat of Pennsylvania.

Following President Clinton's election in 1992, the road led Gail to four intense months as deputy director of operations for the inauguration. This appointment came as a result of her diligent and enthusiastic work under Ron Brown during his leadership as head of the Democratic National Committee. She served as budget manager for the Victory '92 Campaign, convention coordinator for all operational events, and corporate fundraiser at the DNC from 1990 to 1992.

After a 5-month recreational hiatus at various beaches in the Caribbean, Gail was persuaded to join Secretary Brown and did so in the Office of Business Liaison at the U.S. Department of Commerce as a confidential aide, deputy director, and, at the time of her unfortunate death, as acting director.

Under Secretary Brown's leadership and working closely with him, Gail helped to develop U.S. business interests abroad, and in fact she was able to organize and coordinate Presidential business development missions to Russia, South America, China, Ireland, India, Turkey, the Middle East, Africa, Bosnia and Croatia. These trade missions promoted export-related activities for specific business ventures by American companies. They developed over \$44 billion in American opportunities abroad for businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the memory of Gail Dobert be recognized by this House and by the Nation at large.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as this body is aware, it has imposed a Control Board on the District of Columbia, which has become insolvent. The only reason there are not more cities in this category, of course, is because most cities have States. Nevertheless, New York, Philadelphia, and Cleveland, long before the District became insolvent, themselves became insolvent and had control boards.

Control boards, of course, are necessary, because insolvent cities cannot borrow. One of the first things such

cities need to do is to downsize their governments. That is exactly what is happening in the District of Columbia as I speak.

The fact is, however, that every other city that has become insolvent had a dual strategy or they never would have become solvent. The State provided either some direct aid, as in the case of Philadelphia, or a takeover of functions and aid, as in the case of New York City.

The District is a unique entity, and I have proposed a unique bill, the only alternative I can see, that provides any realistic way to counter the serious problems of the capital of the United States.

The unique fact about this city, of course, to face first and foremost, is that it has no State to help it in any way. The Congress, which, of course, has an obligation to help it with a payment in lieu of taxes, because we cannot build on the best land in the District, has not raised the District's Federal payment in 5 years.

Now, costs have gone up enormously in 5 years, so that means that the Federal payment is taking a loss every year that it is not raised. Congress, if anything, made it worse this year by shutting down the Government for a week and by delaying the full Federal payment for 6 months, just digging the hole deeper.

The Congress says the District cannot impose a commuter tax, even though 2 million people come in here using our facilities and walk out everyday without leaving a thin dime to support the city.

If you look at no State to help us, no Federal payment increase in 5 years, no commuter tax, you end up with no way out. It is the obligation of this body, that has constitutional responsibility for the capital of the United States and for every responsible person in this city, to think through how the recovery in fact is going to take place.

Step one is in place. The District is going to reduce its work force by 10,000 people in the next 4 years. That is a 25-percent reduction in its own city government work force. I challenge any Member to show me any government that has had that kind of reduction in so short a period of time. Indeed, the District is halfway there, because of the 10,000 positions that will go, it already has eliminated more than 5,000 of them. And yet this year, before half of the fiscal year was over, the District was down \$100 million. You do not get out of insolvency that way.

So yesterday on Tax Day, I introduced the District of Columbia Economic Recovery Act. It adopts the approach that Members on both sides of the aisle want the Congress to adopt, tax cuts for the District of Columbia, rather than direct aid; tax cuts in order to encourage middle income residents who live here now to remain, and others to come.

In other words, the city would be able to support itself the old-fashioned

way, because there would be enough middle-income taxpayers to pay for what needs to be paid for. There would be a flat 15 percent rate that would have a progressive effect on the income scale, giving substantial Federal tax reductions to D.C. taxpayers.

By the way, there is much to learn from my bill, I think, for the States. If you want to keep folks in New York, Newark, Chicago, and Los Angeles, perhaps the States should try reducing State income tax on taxpayers that remain in those cities, rather than allowing those cities to become what everybody knows they are becoming as I speak, and that is basket cases.

You cannot afford to have the proud capital of your country become a basket case. You are going to pay one way or another. Let us pay for it by letting D.C. residents keep their own money. There also would be capital gains exemption for D.C. residents who invest in the District of Columbia.

Yes, this is a unique remedy for a uniquely handicapped city. Read this morning's Washington Times editorial, "A Serious Plan for What Ails the District."

TRAVEL AND TOURISM IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. ROTH] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Speaker for the good job he is doing in the Chair.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Thank you sir. You are not doing so badly yourself.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, I am excited this morning. We now have 219 cosponsors to the Travel and Tourism Partnership Act. That means that we have more than a majority of the Members in the U.S. House of Representatives that have signed onto this legislation, and it is only appropriate that it happened on April 15—tax day. That is the day the American people focus on how much it costs to run their Government.

The American people know that travel and tourism is the second largest industry in America, and it is going to be the largest industry in America in only 4 years. What this means is that one out of every nine Americans who works, works in the travel and tourism industry.

Travel and tourism has only one problem: The people in the industry do not know how powerful they are politically. So the people that work in travel and tourism, that work in our hotels, motels, and our restaurants, small businesses up and down Main Street, America, they work hard and they pay their taxes. They do not do a lot of screaming. So whenever a tax bill comes to pay for more and more taxes, the American Congress puts it on the hard-working people that work in travel and tourism. Because they are so

busy working, they do not have time to demonstrate.

The American people ought to know that every household in America, because of the travel and tourism industry, pays \$652 less in taxes. That is right. If you live and own a home anywhere in America, yesterday, on tax day, you paid \$652 less in taxes because of this industry, because so many people are employed in this industry. The travel and tourism industry pays a total of \$54 billion a year in taxes, and that benefits all Americans.

What has this Congress done? This Congress has closed down the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration. Travel and tourism is the second largest industry in America and we have stopped advertising. What does every small business person in America know? You have to do some advertising. But Congress said "We are going to save a few dollars," being very myopic, "and we are going to close down the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration."

What I have done is introduce this legislation, and it does not cost 1 dollar in taxes. With this legislation will have the Government and private industry, travel and tourism, working together to let the world know what we have got to offer right here in America.

Every day we can see the benefits of travel and tourism. We had one of our Members here this morning talking about the environment and Earth Day. The money we spend on Earth Day, what will it do? It's just 1 day, where people work on a project, and speak to the TV news in the evening; but the next day it is all forgotten.

Not with travel and tourism. People in travel and tourism are environmentalists every day of the year. Why? It's their business. We want to have clean water. We want to have clean air. We want to make sure we have recreational areas for people to enjoy and to have a healthy environment: All of this means tourism.

I think the U.S. Congress, Mr. Speaker, is waking up to that message, and that is why we have 219 cosponsors on this bill. Very few bills ever get that kind of support.

But the flip side is we have 216 Members of Congress in the House who are not yet signed on. Do they not care about one out of every nine working people in America? I want the travel and tourism industry to contact these Members too. To let them know this is going to be an election issue, and that travel and tourism means jobs.

There are three industries that jobs for the American people will come from the rest of this decade and into the 21st century. What are they? Telecommunications, information technology, and travel and tourism. These are the three great job-producers in America's future.

So when we talk about travel and tourism, we are talking about an industry that is going to produce the jobs that our people need if we are going to have a strong economy.

The U.S. Congress is not going to produce jobs. Travel and tourism produce jobs for one out of every nine working Americans. In only 4 years, 661 million people will be traveling worldwide. Why is that important? Because that number of people will spend more than \$585 billion in the process. That is a lot of money to be added to the American economy.

Mr. Speaker, our Travel and Tourism Caucus is the largest caucus in Congress—304 Members. I ask all Members to join this caucus, because travel and tourism is the wave of the future.

THE 104TH CONGRESS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentlewoman from California [Ms. PELOSI] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be a cosponsor of the travel and tourism legislation of our colleague from Wisconsin, Mr. ROTH, and wish him much success with it. However, I do take issue with one comment that he made, and that is what he said about Earth Day, that it is a day we go have our press events, make some fuss about Earth Day, and then it is forgotten for the rest of the year.

Maybe that is the approach that some of our colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle, and I am not including Mr. ROTH in that, because I know that is not his attitude, but some of our more extreme Members on the Republican side of the aisle take to Earth Day, but that is not the appropriate approach.

As our colleague mentioned Earth Day, we are preparing for Earth Day, the 26th anniversary of the first Earth Day, which will occur next Monday. I think it is important to make some observations about what has happened in this 104th Congress when it comes to the environment.

The 104th Congress came to Washington with an aggressive anti-environment agenda promoted largely by industry and special interest groups who are determined to turn back 25 years of progress to protect public health, safety and the environment.

The budget cuts proposed by the Gingrich majority in Congress for the Department of Interior and the Environmental Protection Agency are aimed at the heart of our Nation's environmental protection. The two departments with the greatest environmental authority have become the prime targets in the current attack on the environment.

The proposed cut in funding for the EPA is 21 percent below last year's level, and this would seriously affect EPA's enforcement of clean air, clean water, and safe drinking water laws. The Interior appropriations bill included provisions to open Alaska's Tongass National Forest to increased logging and to continue the morato-

rium on the listing of new endangered species.

The funding for protection of our Nation's wetlands, endangered species, forests and the public lands, must not be sacrificed in favor of short-term profits for miners, grazers, and developers. Programs to protect our Nation's water and air should not be held hostage to budget antics that have left these primary environmental agencies limping through the 1996 fiscal year with only a fraction of the funding needed to function.

Mr. Speaker, I want to call to the attention of our colleagues once again some of the impacts of the extreme Republican cuts on the EPA. Weakened enforcement of environmental laws, including a 40-percent reduction in health and safety inspections of industrial facilities; delayed new standards to protect drinking water, including tap water standards; delayed new and ongoing cleanups at toxic waste sites; rolled-back community right-to-know information about toxic chemicals; created barriers to developing new controls to protect rivers and streams from industrial water pollutants. The Republican approaches have delayed approving pesticides with lower health risks as a safer alternative for farmers, delayed new standards for toxic industrial air pollutants, delayed review of air pollution standards to ensure adequate health protection, delayed studies on how toxic chemicals may impair reproductive development, and studies on how pollution affects high risk populations.

I want to make two observations. The list goes on and on. I am just naming a few that affect EPA. There are others that affect the Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice's enforcement. I make two observations about that list.

One is, Mr. Speaker, as you know, as a colleague on the Subcommittee on Health and Human Services of the Committee on Appropriations, scientists have come before our subcommittee and said that you cannot separate personal health from the health of our environment. Pollution prevention is disease prevention. That makes these cuts foolish cuts, because they are not cutting the budget, they are reducing an investment in public health as well as environmental health.

I want to also call to the attention of our colleagues the release of a report by the California State Senate on environmental protection. The report says, "Contrary to popular belief, environmental regulations are not a major cause of job losses and declining economic performance." The Senate report concludes that environmental laws are not a major cause for the relocation of businesses to other States or countries. According to the report, more jobs are lost from leveraged buy-outs and mergers than from controlling pollution.

The American people have the answer: They want a safe and healthy environment. We should follow their lead